

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 02252 271842Z

64

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

----- 053320

R 271835Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6191

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 02252

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR US FR

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S FIRST MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER  
CHIRAC

1. ALTHOUGH WE HAD SEEN EACH OTHER ON A NUMBER OF OCCA-  
TIONS PREVIOUSLY, I MADE AN OFFICIAL COURTESY CALL ON  
CHIRAC ON JANUARY 24. IN A PRIVATE CONVERSATION THAT  
LASTED WELL BEYOND THE EXPECTED TIME, I FOUND CHIRAC A  
TENACIOUS, TOUGH PROFESSIONAL WHO ENJOYS THE GIVE AND  
TAKE OF STRAIGHTFORWARD DEBATE. HE CLEARLY MASTERS HIS  
SUBJECTS IN ADVANCE AND COMES RIGHT TO THE POINT. HE IS  
PRAGMATIC, WILLING TO LISTEN, AND IS NOT PUT OFF BY  
FRANK TALK IN EXCHANGE.

2. ON THE ISSUE OF THE YF-16 COMPETITION WITH THE MIRAGE  
TO REPLACE THE F-104, FOR EXAMPLE, CHIRAC INSISTS THAT  
THE PROBLEM IS ESSENTIALLY POLITICAL RATHER THAN COMMER-  
CIAL OR MILITARY. IN RATHER BLUNT TERMS, CHIRAC SAID  
THAT THE OUTCOME OF THE COMPETITION, AND U.S. CONDUCT IN  
THE PROCESS, WILL SERVE AS A TEST OF AMERICA'S DESIRE  
FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH FRANCE AND FOR A STRONGER  
EUROPE. I RESPONDED IN EQUALLY PLAIN LANGUAGE THAT THE  
US REGARDED THE ISSUE AS A TEST TOO: IS EUROPE CAPABLE  
OF CHOOSING THE BEST AIRCRAFT ON TECHNICAL GROUNDS,  
WITHOUT REGARD TO IDEOLOGICAL OR DOMESTIC POLITICAL CON-  
SIDERATIONS?

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 02252 271842Z

3. THE LATE PRESIDENT POMPIDOU CALLED CHIRAC "THE

BULLDOZER," WHICH IS APPROPRIATE. HE HAS A KEEN, QUICK MIND AND LIKES TO OVERWHELM WITH HIS LOGIC. AT THE SAME TIME, HE APPRECIATES POWER, ESPECIALLY THE GREAT POWER REPRESENTED BY THE UNITED STATES, AND, I BELIEVE, HE HAS A GENUINE AFFECTION FOR OUR COUNTRY. HE EXPRESSED A DESIRE FOR A CONTINUING DIALOGUE WITH US. TOWARD THE END OF OUR CONVERSATION HE SAID HE WOULD INSTRUCT HIS EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO GET IN TOUCH WITH MINE TO MAKE SURE WE HAVE REGULAR MEETINGS. I CONSIDER THIS A POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT, BECAUSE CHIRAC IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT THROUGH HIS ENHANCED CONTROL OVER PARLIAMENT'S MOST IMPORTANT PARTY, THROUGH HIS ABILITY, AND THROUGH THE SHEER FORCE OF HIS PERSONALITY. WHILE HIS FOCUS ON FRENCH INDEPENDENCE MAY COLOR HIS ANALYSIS OF FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES, HIS OPENNESS AND DESIRE FOR DIALOGUE MAKE HIM A KEY CHANNEL OF COMMUNICATIONS TO THE GOF WHICH WE SHOULD NOT HESITATE TO EXPLOIT.  
RUSH.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975PARIS02252  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750030-0193  
**From:** PARIS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750117/aaaaapgx.tel  
**Line Count:** 79  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <19 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <20 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AMBASSADOR'S FIRST MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER CHIRAC  
**TAGS:** PFOR, US, FR, (CHIRAC, JACQUES)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006